

**DECCAN COLLEGE POST-GRADUATE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
DEEMED UNIVERSITY  
Pune - 411 006**

**M.A. in Linguistics  
Semester – III  
LNG – 301: Languages of South Asia  
Term End Examination, November – 2019**

**Time: Two and half Hours**

**Maximum marks 60**

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**Section A**

**Answer any three essay type questions from the following.**

**Marks-30**

1. Critically evaluate the concept of language family in relation to the languages of India.
2. Discuss the major characteristic features of Dravidian languages.
3. Discuss the classification of Tibeto-Burman languages of South-Asia.
4. What are the characteristic linguistic features of the Munda sub-branch?
5. Write an essay on the concept of India as a Linguistic Area.

**Section B**

**Answer any three short notes from the following:**

**Marks-15**

1. Language isolates in South Asia
2. Sources of information on Indian languages
3. Syntactic features of Modern Indo-Aryan languages
4. Old Indo-Aryan Phonology
5. Characteristic features of Middle Indo-Aryan

**Section C**

**Answer following objective type questions (all are compulsory)**

**Marks-15**

1. Dravidian languages are-----
  - a) Agglutinative
  - b) Isolating
  - c) Inflectional
2. Which of the following has SOV word order?
  - a) Garo
  - b) Khasi
  - c) Kulung
3. State True or False. Languages with Ergative – Absolutive System of case may have object verb agreement.

4. State True or False. If a language places the verb at the end of the sentence i.e. verb final language, it may have the correlational values as Main verb + Auxilliary
5. State True or False. All verb-final south Asian languages have post positions that follow the noun.
6. State True or False. Reduplication and echo-formation are two characteristics associated with south Asian languages.
7. State True or False. At the level of phonology all South Asian languages exhibit a contrast between front unrounded vowel and rounded back vowels.
8. State True or False. Retroflex sounds however do not occur in Garo and Khasi.
9. Mon-Khmer and Munda are two principal groups of-----.
10. The Dravidian language spoken in the Baluchistan province of Pakistan is-----  
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11. The Old Indo – Aryan stage is said to extend from-----.
12. ‘Khowar’, ‘Torwali’ and ‘Shina’ belong to-----.
13. Kota, Toda and Kui languages come under -----.
14. The notion that India is a linguistic area was proposed by-----
15. Austro-Asiatic and Dravidian languages do not exhibit-----.

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Semester – III  
LNG – 302: Historical Linguistics  
Term End Examination, November – 2019**

**Time: Two and half Hours**

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**Section A**

**Marks-30**

**Answer any three questions from Section A.**

1. What is linguistic borrowing? Discuss any two mechanisms of borrowing.
2. Explain briefly the dialectological method. What is the relevance of dialectology to the study of language change?
3. What is analogical change? Explain the types of systematic analogical change. How does analogical change interact with the sound change?
4. Explain the Transformational Generative grammarians' view on phonological change.
5. Write an essay on the basis, mechanisms and effects of semantic change.

**Section B**

**Marks-15**

**Write short notes on any three of the following:**

1. Semantic bleaching and pragmatic strengthening
2. Mechanisms and causes of syntactic change
3. Types of classification of languages
4. Split and Merger
5. Social motivations of language change

**Section C**

**Marks-15**

**Answer all of the following questions:**

1. A set of words or morphemes of a language sharing systematic similarities of form and meaning with the related words or morphemes of a genetically related language because these words are descended from words or morphemes of a proto-language of the concerned languages is called \_\_\_\_\_. (Sound correspondences / Cognate set / Allomorphs of the same morpheme / Reflexes).

2. The process by which the English word *lab* is derived from *laboratory* or *auto* is derived from *automobile* is called \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Clipping / Periphrasis / Narrowing / Backformation).
3. In dialect geography, an area which remains relatively unaffected by the spread of a specific linguistic change in its dialect-space is called \_\_\_\_\_. (Transition area / Linguistic area / Focal area / Relic area).
4. A pidgin variety that has acquired native speakers is called \_\_\_\_\_. (Koine / Creole / Depidginized variety / Interlanguage).
5. Consider the following example:  
\* *tapu* 'to perish' (Proto-Dravid) > *tavu* 'to decrease' (Kannada)  
The sound change involved in this case is \_\_\_\_\_. (Merger / Lenition / Fortition / Deaffrication).
6. State True or False: It is assumed in comparative reconstruction method that after two varieties of a proto-language are split, there is no subsequent contact between those two varieties.
7. State True or False: Internal reconstruction method can be used to reconstruct the proto-stage of two or more languages internal to a single language family.
8. State True or False: Given the presence of a lot of French-origin words in English and Latin-origin verb roots, it is clear that Latin, French and English all belong to the same language sub-family.
9. State True or False: Grimm's Law is an exception to Verner's Law.
10. Grassman's Law captures the \_\_\_\_\_. (The first Germanic consonant shifts/ limitations to Verner's Law / Final devoicing in Germanic / Dissimilation of aspirates in Greek).
11. A sound change that affects all of the occurrences of a sound in a language irrespective of the phonetic contexts in which it occurs is called \_\_\_\_\_. (Regular sound change/ unconditioned sound change / chain shift / primary merger).
12. In the situation of language contact, when the linguistic structures are transferred from an earlier language in a territory to a language that has arrived later in the same territory is called \_\_\_\_\_ effect. (Adstratum / substratum / pidginization/ convergence).
13. A type of language in which addition of affixes to roots does not cause significant changes in the root and affixes can be easily identified and segmented is called \_\_\_\_\_ language. (Analytic / poly-synthetic / isolating / agglutinative)

14. An example of a verb being used as an auxiliary in a later stage of a language exemplifies the process of \_\_\_\_\_. (Grammaticalization / Pragmatic strengthening / Narrowing / semantic change triggered by Metaphor).

15. State True or False: By assumption, a proto-language has no dialectal variation.

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M.A. in Linguistics  
Semester –III  
LNG – 305: Semantics-2  
Term End Examination, November – 2019

Time: Two and half Hours

Maximum marks 60

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**Section A**

**Marks-30**

**Answer three questions from the following:**

1. What do you understand by the term *Aktionsart*? Discuss how this semantic notion contributes to sentence meaning.
2. Critique Len Talmy's proposal that semantic components of motion events are conflated in verb meaning. Give suitable examples.
3. Describe how the *Argument Selection Principle* predicts linkages between participant roles and grammatical relations.
4. Discuss with examples the various sub-types of the imperfective aspect. Give suitable examples.
5. What do you understand by the term *compositionality* in semantics? Illustrate how semantic components of verbal predicates can help in classifying the predicates.

**Section B**

**Marks-15**

**Answer any three from the following:**

1. Explain Jackendoff's *localist approach* to the representation of events with examples.
2. Examine the following sentences and explain how 'voice' allows speakers a strategy for relating theta roles and grammatical relations:
  - i. Zoya cleans her car with shampoo. She enjoys cleaning.
  - ii. Zoya cleans her car with shampoo. It was given to her by her cousin as a gift.
3. Examine the following sentences:
  - i. John opened the door with a key.
  - ii. The key opened the door.
  - iii. The door opened.

Discuss the three sentences in terms of the relations between participant roles and grammatical relations.

4. How is the cognitive approach to meaning different from the formal approach to meaning?
5. Discuss with appropriate examples the uses of present tense marking in a language known to you.
6. Write a short note on *model theoretical semantics*.

**Section C**

**Marks -15**

**Answer the following objective type questions carrying one mark for each (all questions are compulsory)**

1. The semantic role of 'The cat' in the sentence *The cat is hungry* is \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank).  
(a) THEME (b) EXPERIENCER (c) PATIENT
2. *Harish may go home now* (speaker telling the addressee) is an example of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) epistemic modality  
(b) deontic modality  
(c) irrealis
3. The semantic categories of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are linguistic encodings of the non-linguistic category of 'time'.  
(a) evidentiality and modality  
(b) tense and aspect  
(c) time and space
4. The Vendlerian class of the predicate *reach* in the sentence *The news reached the school principal* is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The semantic role of *the wall* in the sentence *The wall collapsed* is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Fill in the blank.)
6. The semantic role and grammatical relation assigned to 'Peter' in the sentence *Peter was hit by a car* are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ respectively.  
(a) AGENT, Object (b) PATIENT, Subject (c) EXPERIENCER, Subject
7. The predicate *STUDY* is classified as \_\_\_\_\_ in the sentence *The students studied all day* is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) accomplishment  
(b) activity  
(c) achievement

8. Identify the correct theta-grid for the English verb 'see':
- (a) V: <EXPERIENCER, GOAL>
  - (b) V: <STIMULUS, EXPERIENCER>
  - (c) V: <EXPERIENCER, PERCEPT>
9. Fill in the blank with the correct option: \_\_\_\_\_ is a deictic category .
- (a) tense (b) aspect (c) mood
10. In the example, *The court demolished our argument*, the metaphor used may be described as \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (a) ARGUMENT is BUILDING
  - (b) BUILDING is COURT
  - (c) ARGUMENT is PERSON
11. Fill in the blank with the correct option: \_\_\_\_\_ is an example of the Vendlerian class 'activity':
- (a) go to school (b) find a pen (c) be happy
12. The English translation of the logical notation  $\exists x(M(x,j))$  can be \_\_\_\_\_ where  $j = \text{John}$  and  $M = \text{meet}$ .
- (a) Someone met John.
  - (b) John met everyone.
  - (c) John met someone.
13. *Animals not allowed inside the restaurant* is an example of \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) Deontic possibility (b) Epistemic possibility (c) Deontic necessity
14. The correct analysis of the predicate in the sentence *The lecture ended at 5:00 PM* using inherent verbal features is \_\_\_\_\_
- (a) [-STATIVE], [-DURATIVE], [+TELIC] and [-VOLUNTARY]
  - (b) [+STATIVE], [-DURATIVE], [+TELIC] and [-VOLUNTARY]
  - (c) [-STATIVE], [-DURATIVE], [-TELIC] and [-VOLUNTARY]
15. The cognitive semantic approach to sentence meaning is an example of \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (a) model-theoretic semantics (b) representational approach to semantics
  - (c) denotational approach to semantics

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LNG – 306: Computational Linguistics-1  
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**Time: Two and half Hours**

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**Section A**

**Marks-30**

**Answer three questions.**

1. Write a note on Databases and Programming Languages.
2. Explain the various types of corpus annotation with appropriate examples.
3. What is Natural Language Processing? Explain some of the major NLP Applications.
4. Provide detailed information about the functioning of Text-to-Speech and Speech-to-text Systems.
5. Elucidate the importance of Word Net and Machine Readable Dictionaries in Computational Linguistics applications.

**Section B**

**Marks-15**

**Write short notes on any three of the following topics, and illustrate your answers with examples wherever possible:**

1. Corpora in Language Studies
2. Part of Speech Tagging
3. Corpus-based dictionaries
4. Compilers and Interpreters
5. Models for ASR

**Section C**

**Marks-15**

**All questions are compulsory. Provide full forms of the following abbreviated terms and concepts used in Language Technology:**

- |         |          |          |
|---------|----------|----------|
| 1. CALL | 6. MT    | 11. URL  |
| 2. AI   | 7. OCR   | 12. OS   |
| 3. LDC  | 8. OPAC  | 13. SPSS |
| 4. MI   | 9. SGML  | 14. MRD  |
| 5. HTML | 10. KWOC | 15. NLG  |

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